

DAN BURTON, INDIANA,
CHAIRMAN

BENJAMIN A. GILMAN, NEW YORK
CONSTANCE A. MORELLA, MARYLAND
CHRISTOPHER SHAYS, CONNECTICUT
ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, FLORIDA
JOHN M. McHUGH, NEW YORK
STEPHEN HORN, CALIFORNIA
JOHN L. MICA, FLORIDA
THOMAS M. DAVIS, VIRGINIA
MARK E. SOUDER, INDIANA
JOE SCARBOROUGH, FLORIDA
STEVEN C. LATOURETTE, OHIO
BOB BARR, GEORGIA
DAN MILLER, FLORIDA
DOUG OSE, CALIFORNIA
RON LEWIS, KENTUCKY
JO ANN DAVIS, VIRGINIA
TODD RUSSELL PLATTS, PENNSYLVANIA
DAVE WELDON, FLORIDA
CHRIS CANNON, UTAH
ADAM H. PUTNAM, FLORIDA
C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, IDAHO
EDWARD L. SCHROCK, VIRGINIA
JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR., TENNESSEE

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074
FACSIMILE (202) 225-3974
MINORITY (202) 225-5051
TTY (202) 225-6852

www.house.gov/reform

June 19, 2002

HENRY A. WAXMAN, CALIFORNIA,
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

TOM LANTOS, CALIFORNIA
MAJOR R. OWENS, NEW YORK
EDOLPHUS TOWNS, NEW YORK
PAUL E. KANJORSKI, PENNSYLVANIA
PATSY T. MINK, HAWAII
CAROLYN B. MALONEY, NEW YORK
ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON,
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, MARYLAND
DENNIS J. KUCINICH, OHIO
ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH, ILLINOIS
DANNY K. DAVIS, ILLINOIS
JOHN F. TIERNEY, MASSACHUSETTS
JIM TURNER, TEXAS
THOMAS H. ALLEN, MAINE
JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY, ILLINOIS
Wm. LACY CLAY, MISSOURI
DIANE E. WATSON, CALIFORNIA

BERNARD SANDERS, VERMONT,
INDEPENDENT

The Honorable Dan Burton
Chairman
Committee on Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Burton:

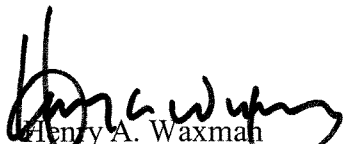
We are writing to urge you to postpone the markup of the "Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act" that you have scheduled for tomorrow.


Since October, our staffs have worked tirelessly to develop a proposal to reform the Postal Service. They have put hundreds of hours into this effort and have produced a sound, bipartisan bill. We personally have also spent a great deal of time talking to stakeholders and interest groups to develop sound legislation. We know that you and Mr. McHugh have done the same. And our efforts have been productive. Many stakeholders, including the Postal Service, support this bill.

But our goal is not to report a bill from Committee; it is to approve a bill on the House floor and enact it into law. Accordingly, it makes little sense to move this bill through Committee until we have an assurance that it will be considered on the floor. We have repeatedly asked you to arrange a meeting with the House leadership to discuss procedure. And from the outset of the process, we have asked for a commitment that the bill will receive floor time if it is reported out of Committee. But these simple requests have not been met.

If this markup proceeds tomorrow, we will seek a roll call vote and will not support reporting the legislation from Committee at this time. For this reason, we hope that you will reconsider the timing of your markup and postpone it until we receive assurances that this bill will receive time on the floor.

Sincerely,


Henry A. Waxman
Ranking Minority Member


Danny K. Davis
Ranking Minority Member
Subcommittee on Civil Service,
Census and Agency Organization

cc: Members of the Committee on Government Reform